

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

1100 East Main Street, Suite 501, Richmond, Virginia 23219

www.ca4.uscourts.gov

January 6, 2015

No. 15-1011
(1:13-cv-00050-WDQ)

VINCENT T. MERCER

Plaintiff - Appellant

v.

PHH CORPORATION

Defendant - Appellee

DOCKETING NOTICE--CIVIL/AGENCY CASE

TO: Counsel

ATTACHMENT(S): Memorandum on Sealed and Confidential Information

DUE DATE: 14 days from this notice

- This case has been placed on the court's docket under the above-referenced number, which should be used on all documents filed in this case.
- Counsel should review the above caption and promptly bring any necessary corrections to the case manager's attention.
- In consolidated cases, filings should be made using all case numbers to which the filing applies, beginning with the lead case number.

- Electronic filing is mandatory for counsel in all Fourth Circuit cases. Information on obtaining an electronic filing account is available on the court's Internet site.
- In cases in which more than one attorney represents a party, future notices will be sent only to attorneys who have entered an appearance as counsel of record; other attorneys will be removed from the case.
- Counsel must remove from documents filed with this court any social security numbers, juvenile names, dates of birth, financial account numbers, home addresses in criminal cases, and protected information regarding unexecuted summonses, jurors, presentence investigations, statements of reasons in criminal judgments, and substantial assistance agreements. Any sealed material must be filed in accordance with the enclosed Memorandum on Sealed and Confidential Material. The court does **not** seal its docket; therefore, counsel must use sealed entries for all sealed filings.
- Initial forms must be filed as directed in the following table of forms. The forms, available through the links below or on the court's Internet site, can be completed on line and saved for filing in electronic form.

Form:	Required From:	Due:
<u>Appearance of Counsel</u>	Counsel of record for any party to the appeal (*Counsel must have completed electronic case filing [ECF] registration and , if not admitted to this court, counsel must complete and submit an <u>application for admission</u> prior to filing an appearance.)	Within 14 days of this notice (Do not attach to other documents * <u>nor</u> file an appearance on behalf of an attorney who has not met the filing requirements named in the adjacent column.)
<u>Disclosure Statement</u>	All parties to a civil or bankruptcy case (except not required from the United States, from indigent parties, or from state or local governments in pro se cases)	Within 14 days of this notice (Do not attach to other documents)
<u>Docketing Statement</u>	Appellant's counsel	Within 14 days of this notice (Do not attach to other documents)
<u>Transcript Order</u>	Appellant, only if ordering transcript	Attach to docketing statement

I will be the case manager for this case. Please contact me at the number listed below if you have any questions regarding your case.

Amy L. Carlheim, Deputy Clerk
804-916-2702

SEALED & CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS

Internet Availability of Docket & Documents

Fourth Circuit case dockets and documents are available on the Internet via the Judiciary's PACER system (Public Access to Court Electronic Records). The Fourth Circuit docket is available on the Internet even if the district court docket was sealed. If a party's name was sealed in the district court, it should be replaced by "Under Seal" or a pseudonym on appeal.

Due to the electronic availability of court documents, the federal rules prohibit including certain personal data identifiers in court filings. In addition, parties should not include any data in their filings that they would not want on the Internet. Counsel should advise their clients on this subject so that an informed decision can be made. Responsibility rests with counsel and the parties, not with the clerk.

Documents filed by the parties in immigration and social security cases are not accessible over the Internet to the public. In immigration and social security cases, public Internet access is limited to the court's docket, orders, and opinions.

Federal Rules of Procedure

The federal rules of procedure require filers to redact any of the following personal data identifiers (PDIs) if included in court filings: (1) social security and tax ID numbers must be limited to last four digits; (2) minor children must be identified by their initials only; (3) dates of birth must show the year only; (4) financial account numbers must be limited to the last four digits only; and (5) home addresses in criminal cases must be limited to city and state only. The federal rules establish limited exceptions to these redaction requirements. See Fed. R. App. P. 25(a)(5); Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2; Fed. R. Crim. P. 49.1; Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9037

Judicial Conference Privacy Policy

In addition, the judiciary's regulation on [Privacy Policy for Electronic Case Files](#) prohibits filers from including any of the following criminal documents in the public file: (1) unexecuted summonses or warrants; (2) bail or presentence reports; (3) statement of reasons in judgment of conviction; (4) juvenile records; (5) identifying information about jurors or potential jurors; (6) CJA financial affidavits; (7) ex parte requests to authorize CJA services and (8) any sealed documents, such as motions for downward departure for substantial assistance, plea agreements

indicating cooperation, or victim statements.

Local Rule 25(c)

Local Rule 25(c) limits the sealing of documents by requiring that sealed record material be separated from unsealed material and placed in a sealed volume of the appendix and by requiring the filing of both sealed, highlighted versions and public, redacted versions of briefs and other documents. Since the ECF events for sealed filings make the documents accessible only to the court, counsel must serve sealed documents on the other parties in paper form.

Documents that were not sealed before the agency or district court will not be sealed in this court unless a motion to seal is filed and granted in this court.

Since the ECF events for sealed filings make the documents accessible only to the court, counsel must serve sealed documents on the other parties in paper form.

Sealed Volume of Appendix

If sealed record material needs to be included in the appendix, it must be placed in a **separate, sealed** volume of the appendix and filed with a certificate of confidentiality. In consolidated criminal cases in which presentence reports are being filed for multiple defendants, each presentence report must be placed in a separate, sealed volume served only on Government counsel and counsel for the defendant who is the subject of the report.

- Use ECF event-**SEALED APPENDIX** to file sealed electronic appendix volume(s). Four sealed paper volumes must be sent to the court. For briefing orders after September 1, 2014, in appointed counsel and in forma pauperis cases, only 1 paper copy of the sealed appendix is required; if the case is tentatively calendared for oral argument, 3 additional paper copies of the sealed appendix must be filed within 10 days. See Standing Order 14-01. Cover of sealed appendix volume must be marked SEALED, and paper copies must be placed in envelopes marked SEALED. Sealed volume must be served on other parties in paper form.
- Use ECF event-**Certificate of confidentiality** to identify authority for treating material as sealed and to identify who may have access to sealed material. Paper copies of certificate of confidentiality must accompany the paper copies of the sealed appendix filed with the court.
- Use ECF event-**APPENDIX** to file public electronic appendix volumes(s). Six public paper volumes must be sent to the court (five if counsel is court appointed). For briefing orders after September 1, 2014, in appointed counsel

and in forma pauperis cases, only 1 paper copy of the appendix is required; if the case is tentatively calendared for oral argument, 3 additional paper copies of the appendix must be filed within 10 days. See Standing Order 14-01.

Paper copies of public volumes of appendix do not need to be served on other parties if they were served with full public appendix in electronic form.

Sealed Version of Brief

If sealed material needs to be referenced in a brief, counsel must file both a **sealed, highlighted version** of the brief and a **public, redacted version** of the brief, as well as a certificate of confidentiality.

- Use ECF event-**SEALED BRIEF** to file sealed electronic version of brief in which sealed material has been highlighted. Four sealed paper copies must be sent to the court. For briefing orders after September 1, 2014, in appointed counsel and in forma pauperis cases, only 1 paper copy of the sealed brief is required; if the case is tentatively calendared for oral argument, 3 additional paper copies of the sealed brief must be filed within 10 days. See Standing Order 14-01. Cover of sealed brief must be marked SEALED, and paper copies must be placed in envelopes marked SEALED. Sealed version must be served on other parties in paper form..
- Use ECF event-**Certificate of confidentiality** to identify authority for treating material as sealed and to identify who may have access to sealed material. Paper copies of certificate of confidentiality must accompany the paper copies of the sealed brief filed with the court.
- Use ECF event-**BRIEF** to file public electronic version of brief from which sealed material has been redacted. Eight paper copies must be sent to the court (six if counsel is court appointed). For briefing orders after September 1, 2014, in appointed counsel and in forma pauperis cases, only 1 paper copy of the brief is required; if the case is tentatively calendared for oral argument, 3 additional paper copies of the brief must be filed within 10 days. See Standing Order 14-01. Paper copies of public brief do not need to be served on other parties.

Sealed Version of Motions and Other Documents

If sealed material needs to be referenced in a motion or other document, counsel must file both a **sealed, highlighted version** and a **public, redacted version**, as well as a certificate of confidentiality.

- Use ECF event-**SEALED DOCUMENT** to file sealed electronic version of document in which sealed material has been highlighted. First page of document must be marked SEALED. No paper copies need be filed, but

other parties must be served in paper form.

- Use ECF event-**Certificate of confidentiality** to identify authority for treating material as sealed and to identify who may have access to sealed material.
- Use the appropriate ECF event (e.g., **MOTION** or **RESPONSE/ANSWER**) to file public electronic version of document from which sealed material has been redacted. No paper copies of public document are needed for filing or service.

Motions to Seal

Counsel should file a motion to seal if the material was not previously sealed by virtue of the Privacy Policy for Electronic Case Files, or by statute, rule, regulation, or order. Counsel should also file a motion to seal if it is necessary to seal the entire brief or motion and not possible to create a public, redacted version.

The motion to seal must appear on the public docket for five days; therefore, counsel must file both a **sealed, highlighted version** of the motion to seal (along with a certificate of confidentiality) and a **public, redacted version** of the motion to seal. The motion to seal must identify the document or portions thereof for which sealing is requested, the reasons why sealing is necessary, the reasons a less drastic alternative will not afford adequate protection, and the period of time for which sealing is required.